Export Oriented Units in 1982 and 1983. Ten more applications for similar projects, of which five related to Gujarat, were received in 1985 and 1986. Based on an appraisal of the proposals including an evaluation of the current technological status of the operations and having regard to the constraints within which such units have to function under the Import-Export Policy, it was considered that further approvals need not be granted. Accordingly, all the applications have been rejected. Some of the parties have represented against the rejection.

Handloom units in Orissa

2763. SHRl BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of handloom units in Orissa at present, the number of persons employed in these units and the number of new units opened or those closed during the last three years; year wise;

(b) what is the annual production of handloom products in the State at present;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to formulate any scheme for the development of handloom sector in Orissa; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No survey is conducted every year to find out the number of new units set up, units that closed down, etc. However, according to the census conducted in 1973, the total number of looms in Orissa were 1, 05, 001 and as per census of 1985, the number of looms were 1, 00. 956. Employment in the organised sector for 1985-86 was 1. 82 lakhs.

(b) Production figures are available only for organised sector namely,. the Co-opera tive sector and the looms covered under the State Handloom Development Corpo ration. The annual production for this sector, which covered nearly 90% of the total looms, was 1, 098. 59 lakhs metres in 1985-86. ■

(c) and (d) There are no proposals for formulating any new scheme for' the development of handloom sector in Orissa currently. However, all the schemes that are under implementation since 1976 and those started later are applicable to the state of Orissa. These schemes are designed to bring an all round development of the handloom sector by bringing the weavers under the umbrella of Co-operatives & State Handloom Development Corporations.

Levy of expenditure tax

2764. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE" be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to levy expenditure tax;

(b) whether the modalities for the same have been worked out; and

(c) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be given effect to ?

(d)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE - (SHRI IANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Under the Resolution, dated 13th December, 1985, the Government appointed a Study Group on Taxation of Expenditure to examine the feasibility and desirability of moving towards progressive taxation of expenditure. The Group has been requested to submit its report by 31-12-1986. The Government's decision in the matter will be taken after the report submitted by the Group is examined.

Reconstitution of Fourth Pay Commission

2765. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) What is the present composition of the Fourth Central Pay Commission, after the sudden demise ot its Chairman and some other members in the last three years; and

(b) What steps are being taken by Government to reconstitute the Commission to that the unfinished second part of the Commission's report on post-pensionary and pensionary benefits could be expedited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) The Fourth Pay Commission at present has two members, *viz.* Prof. M. V. Mathur and Shri A. K. Majumdar.

The Commission has been requested to submit its report on retirement benefits without waiting for appointment of a Chairman.

Release of Indian nationals detained in Bangladesh

2766. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently requested the Bangladesh Government to release all the Indian nationals detained in Bangladesh jails, if so, with what results; and

(b) what were the offences for which they have been detained and the period of their detention ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) The Indian High Commission in Dhaka promptly takes up with the Government of Bangladesh all cases of Indian nationals under detention and seeks consular access with a view to obtaining their release, a, s soon as such cases come to light. The number of persons released in this way in recent years is given below:

Year	*No. of persons released*
1983	... 5
1984	... 13
1985	... 8
1986	... 130

(b) According to information available, the following Indian nationals are still . under custody in Bangladesh: —

Year	No. of Indian Prisoners	Alleged offence
1983	5	1 for forged currency notes. Under trial. 1 for overstaying (applied for local citizenship). 2 for travel without valid document. 1 for property dispute.
1984	1	
1985	2	1 for carrying explosives. 1 for illegal entry.
1986	23	—Dacoity Cases.

Non-availability of D. E. E. C. books

2767. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Joint Commissioner, Imports and Exports, Bombay (JCCI, Bombay) is not in a position to issue D. E. E. C. books required by exporters for special imprest licence to clear imported raw materials without payment of customs duty; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Non-recognition of a branch of INTUC in Mawmluh Cement Company Cherrapunjee

2768. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a branch of the INTUC is not recognised by the management of the Mawmluh Cherra Cement Company Limited at Cherrapunjee in spite of the fact that it has most of the workers as its members;

(b) whether Government have received representations from the above branch of the INTUC of the said MCCL regarding the indifferent attitude of the company towards their rightful claims; and